IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-82 without disclaimer or prejudice to be pursued in this or a later-filed continuation or continuation-in-part application.

Please add the following new claims:

83. (new) A data management system, comprising:

a data management server system that receives a source file for registration and a target file for comparison with the source file;

a key generation system that generates a unique data identifier for the source file by identifying a predetermined number of source elements in the source file;

a source print generation system that extracts the source elements from the source file in accordance with said unique data identifier;

a data embedding system that embeds an information block into the source file, said information block including information pertaining to ownership of intellectual property rights;

a database system that stores the source file with the embedded information block, said unique data identifier, the source elements, and ownership information of the source file; and

a source print detection system that compares the source elements with corresponding target elements in the target file in accordance with said unique data identifier and that determines whether coincidence exists between the source elements in the source file and the target elements in the target file,

wherein the data management system accesses said ownership information to notify an owner of the source file if a preselected coincidence level exists between the source elements and the target elements.

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84. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said database system is at least partially incorporated with said data management server system.

85. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said source print generation system extracts the source elements being defined by element characteristics selected from the group consisting of an element size, an element start position, and an element initial position relative to said element start position.

86. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said information block includes user-defined information.

87. (New)   The system of claim 86, wherein said user-defined information is at least partially encrypted.

88. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said information block includes information selected from the group consisting of copyright information, trademark information, licensing information, mandatory compliance information, authorized user information, authorized website information, a file description, and at least one file attribute.

89. (New)   The system of claim 88, wherein said mandatory compliance information includes information selected from the group consisting of identification information, age information, custodial information, and other mandatory information required by law for image data.

90. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said data management system is in communication with at least one external computer system.

91. (New)   The system of claim 90, wherein said data management server system provides the source file with said embedded information block to authorized users associated with one or more of the at least one external computer system.

92. (New)   The system of claim 90, wherein said source print detection system includes a search member that searches one or more of the at least external computer system for target files to be compared with the source file.

93. (New)   The system of claim 83, wherein said key generation system generates a second unique data identifier for the source file, wherein said source print generation system extracts a second predetermined number of second source elements from the source file in accordance with said second unique data identifier, and said database system associates said second unique data identifier and the second source elements with the source file.

94. (New)   The system of claim 93, wherein said database system deletes said unique data identifier and the source elements.

95. (New)   The system of claim 93, wherein said source print detection system compares the second source elements with corresponding target elements in the target file in accordance with said second unique data identifier and determines whether coincidence exists between the second source elements in the source file and the target elements in the target file.

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96. (new)   A method for managing data, comprising:

receiving a source file for registration;

generating a unique data identifier for the source file by identifying a predetermined number of source elements in the source file;

extracting the source elements from the source file in accordance with said unique data identifier;

embedding an information block into the source file, said information block including information pertaining to ownership intellectual property rights;

storing the source file with the embedded information block, said unique data identifier, the source elements, and ownership information of the source file;

receiving a target file for comparison with the source file;

comparing the source elements with corresponding target elements in the target file in accordance with said unique data identifier;

determining whether coincidence exists between the source elements in the source file and the target elements in the target file; and

accessing said ownership information to notify an owner of the source file if a preselected coincidence level exists between the source elements and the target elements.

97. (New)   The method of claim 96, wherein said generating said unique data identifier includes providing at least one data parameter associated with a selected characteristic of said unique data identifier and incorporating said at least one data parameter into said unique data identifier.

98.   (New)   The method of claim 97, wherein said providing said at least one data parameter includes providing said at least one parameter selected from the group consisting of a predetermined number of source elements, an element size, an element

start position, an element initial position relative to said element start position, an element type, and an element length.

99. (New) The method of claim 96, further comprising generating a second unique data identifier for the source file by identifying a second predetermined number of second source elements in the source file, extracting the second source elements from the source file in accordance with said second unique data identifier; and storing said second unique data identifier and the second source elements with the source file.

100. (New) The method of claim 99, further comprising deleting said unique data identifier and the source elements.

101. (New) The method of claim 99, further comprising comparing the second source elements with corresponding target elements in the target file in accordance with said second unique data identifier, determining whether coincidence exists between the second source elements and the target elements, and determining whether coincidence exists between the source elements in the source file and the target elements in the target file; and accessing said ownership information to notify the owner of the source file if a second preselected coincidence level exists between the second source elements and the target elements.

102. (New) The method of claim 101, wherein said preselected coincidence level differs from said second preselected coincidence level.

103. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein said extracting the source elements includes extracting the source elements from the source file having data in a compressed format.

104. (New) The method of claim 103, wherein said extracting the source elements includes expanding the data of the source file.

105. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein said extracting the source elements includes forming a concatenated string of the source elements.

106. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein said extracting the source elements includes normalizing data of the source file and extracting the normalized data from the source file.

107. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein said embedding said information block includes at least partially encrypting said information block.

108. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein said receiving said source file includes communicating with an external computer system.

109. (New) The method of claim 108, further comprising searching one or more of the at least external computer system for target files to be compared with the source file.

110. (New) The method of claim 108, further comprising providing the source file with said embedded information block to authorized users associated with one or more of the at least one external computer system.